Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PFOR RO

SUBJECT: CEAUSESCU ON CYPRUS

- 1. IN INTERNATIONAL PORTION OF A MARCH 6 SPEECH DELIVERED ON OCCASION OF ROMANIAN STATE ELECTIONS (SEE SEPTEL) CEAUSESCU'S EXTREME CONCERN WITH CYPRUS SITUATION WAS AGAIN EVIDENT.
- 2. NOTING THAT AS A BALKAN STATE ROMANIA COULD NOT HELP BUT BE WORRIED ABOUT THE SITUATION IN CYPRUS, CEAUSESCU CONTINUED, "IN THIS SITUATION WHERE THE INTERESTS OF OTHER PEOPLE, OF PEACE IN THE BALKANS ARE CONCERNED, ONE CAN'T SPEAK OF BILATERAL PROBLEMS, OUR COUNTRY CAN'T REMAIN INDIFFERENT. WHEN THERE IS A FIRE IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD, NO ONE CAN STAND UNMINDFUL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AND WAIT FOR THE FIRE TO ENGULF OTHERS." CEAUSESCU URGES

DIRECT NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN TURKEY AND GREECE, BUT DOES NOT REPEAT IDEA OF A BALKAN CONFERENCE ON CYPRUS WHICH ROMANIAN FONMIN MACOVESCU UNSUCCESSFULLY PROPOSED WHILE ON AN OFFICIAL VISIT TO GREECE LAST WEEK. ROMANIA, ACCORDING TO CEAUSESCU, IS READY TO TAKE AN ACTIVE PART IN ANY ACTION DIRECTED TOWARDS THE SOLUTION OF THE PROBLEM, BUT CONTEXT FAVORS ACTION BY BALKAN STATES THEMSELVES.

3. COMMENT: THESE ARE STRONGEST EXPRESSIONS OF CONCERN OVER CYPRUS YET HEARD FROM CEAUSESCU. TOGETHER WITH THE "UNOFFICIAL WORKING VISIT" OF FONMIN MACOVESCU TO ANKARA

MARCH 7-8 SO SOON AFTER HIS "OFFICIAL" VISIT TO GREECE (FEBRUARY 27 - MARCH 3) THEY ARE FURTHER EVIDENCE OF THE GOR'S PROFOUND WORRY OVER THE CONSEQUENCES OF MILITARY ACTION SO CLOSE TO ITS OWN BORDERS. SOVIET AMB'S PRIVATE REACTION MARCH 8 TO MACOVESCU'S BALKAN CONFERENCE PROPOSAL WAS TO RESTATE SOVIET PREFERENCE FOR UN FORUM, AND TO GIVE GOR IDEA COLD SHOWER.

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